subsidy in Visakhapatnam as on date; and

(c) what is the amount of subsidy released by MPEDA during the financial year 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A total amount of Rs. 703882.50 has been sanctioned by Marine Products Export Development Authority under the export linked price reimbursement scheme on diesel oil consumed by deep sea fishing vessels based at Visakhapatnam.

(b) Under this scheme 52 vessels based at Visakhapatnam have been approved for assistance.

(c) An amount of Rs. 703882.50 has been released during financial year 1991-92.

**Loss to S.T.C. in edible oil deal**

*373. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Trading Corporation has incurred a loss of more than Rs. 40 crores in edible oil deals;

(b) if so, what are the details of the losses incurred during the last one year; and

(c) what are the main factors responsible for the losses and what steps are being taken to fix the responsibility therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) STC has not incurred any loss on edible oil imports. As the canalising agency, it buys at internationally competitive prices, edible oils for sale through the Public Distribution System (PDS). The issue price for PDS is decided by the Ministry of Civil Supplies & Public Distribution. Any surplus or deficit arising out of such sales is credited or debited as the case may be to the Government account on edible oils.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Interest accrued on National Saving Scheme Deposits**

@*373A. SHRI GOPAL SINGH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of interest accrued on N.S.S. Deposit is not paid to the Depositors on the maturity of the amount after three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the income tax is deducted from the interest so accrued by the postal authorities at the time of payments even in cases where income tax returns are filled separately and the accounts were opened before the last budget; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The National Savings Scheme Rules provide for crediting of interest due on the deposits in the account at the end of each financial year. Withdrawals are permitted only once in a year, provided that the amount of such withdrawal shall not exceed the balance at the end of the fourth preceding financial year, less withdrawals, if any, already made.

(b) and (c) Income Tax is deducted at the time of withdrawal, under Section 194 EE of the Income Tax Act brought through the Finance (No.2) Act, 1991 with effect from 1.10.1991. These provisions are applicable irrespective of the fact that the account holders have filed their income-tax returns separately and have opened their accounts before the last budget.

No such deductions are, however, required to be made:—

(i) where the aggregate amount of payment in a financial year is less than Rs. 2500/-, or

@Previously Starred Question 334, transferred from 13th, Dec., 1991.

(ii) where the payment is made to the heirs of the deceased depositor, or

(iii) where in the case of resident individual, the tax on estimated total income of the previous year including the aforesaid withdrawal would be nil and such individual furnished a declaration to the above effect in the prescribed form and verified in the prescribed manner to the person responsible for making the payment.

**India's Trade with USSR**

*374. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 382 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th November, 1991 and state:

(a) whether his Ministry has been able to work out the GDP percentage of exports in coordination with the Planning Commission and other Department;

(b) whether the trade problems with Soviet Union have been sorted out; if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether India have decided to trade directly with the newly emerging States of the Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The exports target and its percentage to GDP for the current finacial year 1991-92 has not been finalized on account of continued uncertainties relating to developments in the global economy, exports to USSR on account of difficulties being experienced by USSR to supply necessary imports due to dislocation in the Soviet Union and the time lag for exporters to react to the far reaching reforms in trade policy.

(b) and (c) Recent developments in the Soviet Union have generally had a negative impact on Indo-Soviet trade. However, vigorous efforts are being made to negotiate and sign Trade Protocols for of the 21st century; 1992 with the USSR and its different Republics.

**Export/Import of Ayurvedic Medicines**

*375. SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total export of Ayurvedic medicines during the last three years indicating the value thereof and countries to which these were exported;

(b) whether Government or any private firms are importing Ayurvedic medicines in either finished or raw product form; and

(c) if so, the details of the products imported, indicating the expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Exports of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicines from India during the last 3 years have been as under:

| | (Rs. crores) |
|---|---|
| 1988-89 | .....6.47 |
| 1989-90 | .....2.92 |
| 1990-91 | .....7.29 |

The exports are mainly to USSR, Australia , Hongkong, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, Nigeria, USA, UK and Switzerland.

(b) & (c) The value of import of Ayurvedic medicines during the year 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was Rs. 3.94 crores, Rs. 4.09 crores and Rs. 4.46 crores respectively.

Details like the names of specific items imported or agencies which imported are not being monitored.

**Plan for harnessing Non-Conventional Energy Sources**

*376. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since drawn up power requirement *vis-a-vis* installed capacity at the commencement